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PATENT  
Atty. Dkt. No. MRKS/0053

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:  
Lewis Lawrence

Serial No.: 09/990,772

Confirmation No.: 1830

Filed: November 16, 2001

For: EXPANDER

Group Art Unit: 3672

Examiner: William P. Neuder

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Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING 37 CFR 1.8	
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited on 21 March, 2003 with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.	
11 March 03 Date	William P. Neuder Signature

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED DECEMBER 27, 2002

In response to the Office Action dated December 27, 2002, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on March 27, 2003, please enter this response and reconsider the claims pending in the application for reasons discussed below. Although Applicant believes that no fee is due in connection with this response, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge counsel's Deposit Account No. 20-0782/MRKS/0053/WBP, for any fees, including extension of time fees or excess claim fees, required to make this response timely and acceptable to the Office.

03/28/2003 EHARRIS 00000002 200782 09990772

01 FC:1201 504.00 CH  
02 FC:1202 162.00 CH

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Amended) A tubing expander comprising:

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